

NOV 01 2006

Application No.: 10/823,451

Docket No.: JCLA12897

REMARKS**Present Status of the Application**

The Office Action rejected claims 8-12 and 27-28 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rapp et al. (U. S. Patent 6,626,522; hereinafter Rapp). Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rapp in view of Mizutani (U. S. Patent 6,659,594).

Applicants have amended independent claims 8, 27 and 28. Claims 8-13 and 27-28 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

Discussion of the claim rejection under 35 USC 102

The Office Action rejected claims 8-12 and 27-28 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rapp. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections for at least the reasons set forth below.

1. The inkjet print head of the present invention, as for example shown in FIG. 5, has the heater 220. The chamber walls 236 are surrounding the heater 220 while an ink channel 232 allows ink to flow in. It should be noted that at least one chamber wall 236a does laterally caves in away from the heater, as shown for example in FIG. 5, so that the collecting room 238 is formed. Here, as can be understood, the collecting room 238 is not the part of the ink channel 232. The collecting room 238 is an addition room in the ink chamber and is at least helpful for collecting the bubble and/or impurities to improve the printing quality ([0045]).

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2. In re Rapp (FIG. 1 or Fig. 3), the heater 8 is located within the firing chamber 14 (col. 2, lines 64-67). Then, the feed channels 26A, 26B, and 26C are formed (col. 3, lines 41-44). *In comparing Fig. 3 of Rapp with FIG. 5 of the present invention, the feed channel 26c is like the ink channel 232 of the present invention.* Applicants respectfully disagree that the feed channel 26C caving downwardly from the top surface of the barrier feature 22 is considered as the collecting room as stated by the Office Action (page 4, lines 6-7). The feed channel 26C of Rapp cannot and shall not be served the collecting room for the function of collecting the bubble and/or impurities since it is used to direct ink from the ink slot to the ink chamber 14 and cannot be used to collect the bubble and/or impurities because in doing so will block the flow of the ink which will adversely influence the printing quality. *Rapp never discloses the collecting room as recited in independent claims 8, 27 and 28.*

Further, Rapp never considers the function of the collecting room of the present invention for i.e. collecting the bubble and/or impurity, and therefore Rapp certainly does not disclose the collecting room of the present invention.

Independent claims 8, 27 and 28 are distinguishable over Rapp. With at least the same foregoing reasons, dependent claims 9-12 are distinguishable over Rapp.

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Discussion of the claim rejection under 35 USC 103

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rapp in view of Mizutani. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

3. With at least the same foregoing reasons applied to independent claim 8, Rapp failed to disclose the collecting room.

In re Mizutani, Mizutani may disclose the positions of the ink ejecting ports. However, Mizutani never considers the chamber with the collecting room, either. In this manner, Mizutani does not disclose the position of the nozzle above the collecting room as recited in dependent claim 13, which also includes the features recited in claim 8.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 13 is distinguishable over the prior art references, as well.

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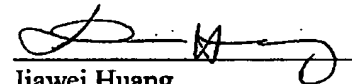
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 8-13 and 27-28 of the present application patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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